



*Office of Local Health*

*“Building Core Capacities in Public Health”*

# **Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey**

**Adopted February 18, 2003**

# Goals

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## **Multi-year “phased” approach to**

- **Modernize NJ’s local public health system**
- **Assure the application of the most current practice and service delivery models**
- **Assure the citizens of NJ the highest quality and level of public health prevention, protection, and promotion**

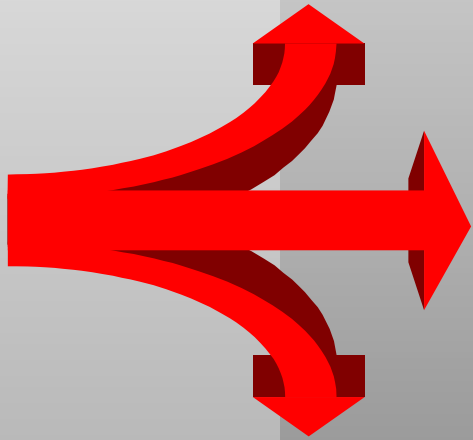
# Description

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- **Based on**
  - 3 Core Functions of Public Health**
    - **Assessment, Policy Development & Assurance**
  - Essential Public Health Services**
  - HP 2010 “Public Health Infrastructure”**
  - HNJ 2010 “Strengthening Public Health Capacity”**
  - National LPHS Performance Instrument**

# Desired Outcome

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**Improved local public health infrastructure using an integrated systems-based & coordinated approach**

# Potential System Benefits

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**Improved health & a healthier population**

**Improved identification & handling of emergencies & disasters**

**Increased data collection & data-based knowledge & decision making**

**Increased ability to focus resources, target areas of need & develop justifications for additional funding**

**Increased capacity to partner with private & nonprofit health systems to leverage resources**

**Greater statewide capacity & infrastructure to strengthen all local programs**

# Challenges

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- **NJ's Current Local PH “System”**

**115 local health departments**

**16 county, 7 regional, 41 multi-municipal, 51 municipal**

**500+ local boards of health (1/3 of all, nationally)**

**Strong “Home Rule”**

**Patchwork geographical distribution**

# Authority (since 1975)

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- **NJSA 26: 3A2-2**

**‘to assure a modern array of health services and to encourage efficient delivery by area-wide LHDs meeting Standards of Performance.’**

- **NJSA 26: 3A2-13**

**‘State Public Health Council shall (periodically) review Standards of Performance which shall include  
(1) core standards applicable to all LHDs,  
(2) supplemental standards to meet local needs.’**

# Major Components

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- **Sixteen (16) subchapters addressing**  
**Essential Public Health Services**  
**- *plus* -**  
**Public Health Practice**  
**Administration**  
**Staffing**  
**Nursing and Health Education**  
**Performance Evaluation**



# Key Requirements

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- **Regional Expertise and Capacity**
- **County-wide, Community Health Assessment and Improvement Planning**
- **Administration, Management and Leadership**
- **Staff Credentialing and Development**
- **Health Education / Promotion**
- **Public Health Nursing**

# Key Requirements

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- **Epidemiology and Surveillance Capacity**
- **Personal and Clinical Preventive Health**
- **Community Linkages**
- **Data and Information Systems**
- **Emergency Response Capacity**
- **Enforcement of Public Health Laws**
- **Public Health Research**
- **Performance Evaluation and CQI**

# Phase-In (over 4 years)

- **Practice Standards Implementation Table**
  - ensure enforcement of laws
- **Upon adoption:**
  - improve administrative services
  - continue categorical services
  - ensure emergency response capacity
  - ensure enforcement of laws
  - participate in governmental public health partnership
- **Within 1 year**
  - realign health education and nursing services with EPHS
  - implement “best practices”

# Phase-In (over 4 years)

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- **Within 2 years**
  - acquire specialized regional expertise & capacity (planning, epidemiology, lab services, IT, etc.)
- **Within 3 years**
  - establish community linkages to personal & clinical services
- **Within 4 years**
  - complete county or multi-countywide community health assessment and health improvement plan

# Practice Standards Implementation

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- **Implementation meeting**
  - January 2003
  - DHSS, NJHOA, NJACHO, NJLBOH, NJAPHNA, SOPHE, NJEHA, NJPHA, NJSNA, NJPHPA & Academia
- **Goal**
  - Develop an implementation strategy

# Practice Standards Implementation Strategy

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- **Statewide roll-out & support**
- **Development of tools that clearly outline requirements**
- **Guidance & training**
- **DHSS commitment to provide the above in timely manner**

# Result

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- **Support of CDC & National Associations**
- **May 2003 implementation meetings**
- **Development of Resource Manual & Guide for LHDs - Toolkit**
- **DHSS support for major deliverables of the rules**

# Practice Standards Statewide Roll-out

- **Phase 1 - Assessment (2-15-04)**

- **LHDs**

- **APEX- PH, Part 1 (Organizational capacity & CQI)**
    - **LHER**

- **LBOHs**

- **National Public Health Performance Standards  
Local Public Health Governance Performance  
Assessment Instrument**
    - **Registration of Local Boards of Health**



# Practice Standards Statewide Roll-out

- **Phase 2 Assessment (2-04 to 2-07)**
  - **Convene governmental partnership (2-04)**
  - **MAPP process (2-04 to 2-07)**
    - **Partnership development (Private & Public)**
    - **Visioning (goal development)**
    - **Performance of four assessments**
    - **Evaluation of assessments**
    - **Formulate goals & strategies (CHIP)**
    - **Action cycle - implement CHIP**

# NJDHSS Responsibilities

**Leadership, policy, accountability, coordination, training, technical assistance, data / info, funding...**

- + Establish statewide health plan (HNJ 2010)**
- + Set policy through “Practice Standards”**
  - Develop and train in “best practices”**
  - Develop LHD evaluation & accountability methods (based on CQI process and national models)**
- + Support info technology**
- + Leverage funding**
  - Evaluate own capacity and performance**

# References & Guidelines

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- **Healthy New Jersey 2010**
- **Healthy People 2010**
- **Core Functions & Essential PH Services**
- **LPHS Performance Assessment Instrument**
- **Public Health Workforce: Agenda for the 21st Century**
- **Council on Linkages, Core Public Health Competencies**
- **APEXPH1, MAPP, PACE EH**

# Additional Information

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- **[www.state.nj.us/health/lh/olh.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/health/lh/olh.htm)**
- **NJDHSS - Division of  
Local Public Health Practice and  
Regional Systems Development  
(609) 292-4993**